
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2006/2007

April 2007

**HSM 116 – MALAYSIAN POLITICAL HISTORY TO EARLY 20TH
CENTURY**

Duration: 3 hours

Please ensure that this examination paper consists of TWO pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

Answer FOUR questions only with at least ONE question each from sections A and B.

Section A

1. “Despite its short life, the rise of Melaka marked the dawn of a new important era not only in Malaysian history but also for the history of Southeast Asia.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?
2. To what extent do you agree that the period from 1641 to 1699 was the period of the rise of the Johore Kingdom?
3. Discuss why Siam often had an easy way to impose her influence on the northern Malay states (refer to the case of Kedah and Perlis).
4. “British imperialism had completely eroded the power of the Malay sultanates along the Straits of Melaka.”

With a survey of the developments that had taken place in the Malay states since the British take over of Singapore in 1819, discuss to what extent do you agree with the above statement?

Section B

5. Discuss the factors that had contributed towards the decline of the Brunei sultanate since the beginning of the 18th century.
6. To what extent did the Brooke administration practice divide and rule policy in Sarawak up to 1941?
7. “The extension of western influence into Sabah was not motivated primarily by local disorder but by the dynamics of free enterprise.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?